

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6-17, and 25-27 were pending in this application. In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1-4, 6-13, 17, 25, and 26 were rejected and claims 14-16 were allowed. By way of this amendment, claims 3, 4, 6-8, and 10 are amended, claims 1, 2, 9, 12, 13, 17, and 25-27 are canceled, and claims 28-38 are added. Accordingly, claims 3, 4, 6-8, 10, 11, 14-16, and 28-38 remain pending with claims 3, 4, 6-8, 10, 11, and 28-38 at issue.

Claims 6, 12, and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 for insufficient antecedent bases for certain limitations in the claims. Accordingly, applicants have amended claim 6 to recite "a" instead of "the maximum expected deflection." Claims 12 and 13 have been canceled and the § 112 rejection with respect to these claims is rendered moot.

Claims 3, 4, 6-8, and 10 have been made to properly depend from previously allowed claim 14. Therefore, the remaining rejections with respect to these claims are moot as well. Newly added 28-38 depend on previously allowed claim 16 and, as such, should be allowable as well.


In light of the foregoing, the prompt issuance of a notice of allowance is respectfully solicited. Should the examiner have any questions, he is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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